

Abe Sailor has heart and 'Seoul'

By JO1(SW) David Rush
Penny Press Staff

Oceans away lies a land of vast geographical, political and social differences compared to the United States. As with many countries, people from these far away lands find their way to America to become a part of a country that is, once again, vastly different from their own.

One such individual who now calls America his home is FN Gyu Jin Kim, better known as Richard, from the USS Abraham Lincoln's Reactor Department.

The 19-year-old Sailor's journey to America began from Seoul, South Korea, when his parents moved themselves and the then 2-year-old Kim to the United States for the promise of a better life for the whole family.

Growing up in the Los Angeles area, Kim quickly adopted the American lifestyle, going to typical schools, the malls, and all of the outdoor activities offered under the sunny skies of the Golden State. Yet after so many years and with thousands of miles between his

native land, Kim never forgot where he came from.

"Korean people value respect. When we speak to our elders it's always 'sir' or 'ma'am.'"

"There are other simple yet important things to know, like if I were to hand something to an elder, it would be disrespectful to give them the item with just one hand. You have to hold it with two hands then give it to them."

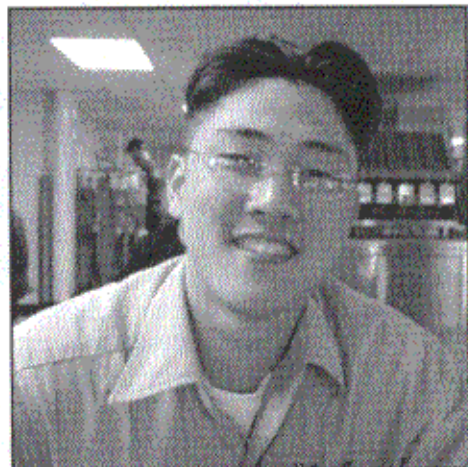
As for table manners, Kim dared not reach for something on the table until it was time.

"At the family meal you cannot start eating until the father or the head of the house begins to eat."

Growing up in the United States, fast food is not only an accepted form of subsistence, it's almost inherent. Still, Kim longs for home cooking, like he enjoyed growing up.

"Ever since I was little, breakfast, lunch and dinner was Korean food unless we ate out. I miss the food," said Kim.

One common tradition in both Ko-



FN Gyu Jin Kim

rean and American cultures is a young man coming of age and striking out on his own. The same applied to Kim as he decided to start looking to what life had in store for him.

"I've been in the Navy for one year and four months. I was getting tired of going to school, and I thought about joining the military and holding off on school

(See Kim Pg. 6)

Detailers talk careers with Abe Sailors

CCD visit helps service members make good professional choices

By JO3 Jason Tross
Penny Press Staff

USS Abraham Lincoln Sailors had a chance to talk to their detailers face-to-face April 30 through May 3 at the Pier Charlie Landing during the Center for Career Development.

"The purpose of the CCD visit is to ensure that service members have all the information they need to make informed career decisions and to provide command leadership with the tools they need to retain good Sailors," said Navy Counselor Master Chief,

Paul Pappas, Abraham Lincoln command career counselor

A detailer is assigned to the Bureau of Personnel in Millington, Tenn., to handle the requests of Sailors looking for new duty stations, TAD assignments and special schools. The detailers had the opportunity to assist more than 150 Abe Sailors with requests and answered their questions.

"Detailers see things from a totally different aspect. Detailers are more career enhanced," said Personnelman 2nd Class, Timothy Bailey, the E-4 and below PN detailer.

"Detailers want to talk personally with Sailors on the fence and make sure they have done everything available to retain the Sailor," said Pappas.

SN Kevin Reed of Deck Department's 3rd Division talked to a detailer about an "A" school he wants to attend.

Reed said, "He was straight up with me; he really tried to work with me," said Reed.

"One Sailor did not meet one of the requirements for a school, but he impressed the detailer so much during the one-on-one visit that the detailer felt he could waive the missing requirement based on the Sailor's attitude," said

Pappas.

Planning ahead is an important key to a successful career according to Pappas. Sailors should contact their detailers within 12 months of transfer to make sure their career goals and desires are known.

"Once you have that special contact with the detailer, things go a lot smoother," said Bailey.

Lincoln Sailors can work with their departmental career counselors to make sure detailers know their career goals and desires, or they can log on Bupers Access and submit electronic dream sheets at www.bupers.navy.mil.